

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) A two-stage method of producing a ceramic article comprising:

casting a slip under pressure into a mold in order to form a deposit, said slip being flocculated ~~under deflocculated~~; and

once said slip has been cast into a deposit, filtering a ~~separate~~ solution containing a deflocculant through the deposit, said solution being distinct from said slip.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~either of claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the slip comprises kaolin.

4. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~either of claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the slip comprises clay.

5. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the slip comprises quartz.

6. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the deflocculant represents at most 3% by weight of the article.

7. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the deflocculant represents at most 5% by weight of the solution.

8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the deflocculant represents between 0.20% and 3% by weight of the solution.

9. (currently amended) A ceramic article, characterized in that it is produced by the process as claimed in ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~or 2~~.

10. (previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that it is formed in a ceramic chosen from the following group: porcelain, vitreous china, earthenware and stoneware.

11. (previously presented) An intermediate product for the purpose of producing a ceramic article, characterized in that the product is obtained from the mold after the steps set out in claim 1.

12. (currently amended) A device for producing a ceramic article, comprising a mold and a first tank suitable for containing a slip, characterized in that the device it comprises a second tank suitable for containing a separate filtration solution containing a deflocculant, the solution being distinct from the slip and the first tank, and means for injecting under pressure, into the mold, alternately, and separately, the slip from the first tank and the solution from the second tank.

13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 3.

15. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 4.

16. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 5.

17. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 6.

18. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 7.

19. (previously presented) A ceramic article produced by the process as claimed in claim 8.